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SIPDIS

DEPARTMENT FOR EUR/SE, ISN/WMDT (TER HAAR, LOWE)

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: MNUC PARM PREL PTER CY

SUBJECT: CYPRUS: ATTENDANCE AT GICNT PLANNING GROUP

MEETING IFFY

REF: SECSTATE 21325

In response to Reftel regarding upcoming Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism (GICNT) events, PolChief, accompanied by Russian DCM Alexander Shcherbakov, on March 27 called on MFA Mulilateral Affairs Division Chief Antonis Toumazis. Toumazis agreed that the April 14-16 gatherings in Seoul -- an Exercise Planning Group session and a workshop on illicit trafficking of nuclear materials -- looked promising and merited wide attendance. That said, the MFA's travel budget was small and Cyprus had no diplomatic mission in Korea. He ruled out a Nicosia-based RoC official attending the April event, but did not completely exclude the possibility of the Cypriot ambassador in Beijing participating. Toumazis assured that Cyprus would send political-level representation to the June GICNT plenary in The Hague. Urbancic